

Message Text

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FOR CARLIN D/HA (ORM) FROM DONNELLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF OCON ICEM

SUBJECT: ICEM'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FINANCE MEETING-
SEPT 8-9, 1975

1. REVIEW OF ICEM'S REVISED 1975 BUDGET SHOWS CONTINUING
DEFICITS IN ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING SECTIONS OVER
ANTICIPATED RESOURCES. THERE FOLLOWS DISCUSSION OF
BUDGET DOCUMENT.

A. ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET: HERE IS SHOWN \$450,000
DEFICIT DOWN FROM ORIGINAL \$600,000. ICEM
ATTRIBUTES DEFICIT TO CONTINUED DEPRESSED EXCHANGE RATE
VIS-A-VIS SWISS FRANC TO DOLLAR, INFLATION AND TRANSFER
OF SIX OFFICIALS AND SIX SECRETARIES FROM SECTION III
TO ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET.

COMMENTS: REVISED BUDGET COMPUTED AT SF 2.50 TO DOLLAR
WHEREAS IF HIGHER RATE USED, SAY SF 2.60, MORE IN LINE
WITH TODAY'S EXCHANGE RATE SF 2.68, ADDITIONAL SAVINGS
COULD BE GENERATED AGAINST DEFICIT.

SINCE INFLATION IS HERE TO STAY, WE CANNOT
ARGUE WITH THIS POINT. TRANSFER OF SIX OFFICIALS
AN SIX SECRETARIES FROM SECTION III TO BUDGET ADDED
SOME \$217,000 IN SALARY AND STAFF BENEFITS TO
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. IF THESE WERE NOT

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INCLUDED UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS THERE COULD

BE ESTIMATED \$117,000 APPLIED AGAINST DEFICIT.
 INCIDENTALLY, IN REVIEW OF SCBF AND EXECCOMM
 REPORTS CANNOT FIND ANY RECOMMENDATION FOR THESE
 TRANSFERS.
 ICEM SHOWS USG ADMIN CONTRIBUTION AS
 \$1,199,880 INSTEAD \$1,097,501 PLEDGED. TO DATE
 USG PAID \$1 MILLION AGAINST ASSESSED CONTRIBUTION.
 AMOUNTS SHOWN UNDER MISCELLANEOUS INCOME"
 CONSIDERABLY SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR. ASSUME
 THOTAL AMOUNT GENERATED BY INTEREST, SECONDED STAFF,
 ETC., CAN BE SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO REDUCE DEFICIT
 BY AT LEAST ANOTHER \$100,000.
 RECOMMENDATIONS: SUGGESTIONS PUT FORTH BY ICEM
 IN PARAS 5 AND 6-SCBF/159-INFLATIONARY AND
 SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL. FROM
 EXPERIENCE ASKING GOVERNMENTS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
 CONTRIBUTIONS DOES NOT LEAD TO FINAL SOLUTION OF
 PROBLEM. IT ONLY DEFERS OR WORSE COVERS FOR ANY
 INCOME WHICH MIGHT BALANCE BUDGET. SUGGESTION TO
 INCREASE 1975 ASSESSMENT OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS
 DEFINITELY OUT OF QUESTION. REMEMBER DIFFICULT
 TIME ICEM HAD GETTING PRESENT SCHEDULE ACCEPTED
 ESPECIALLY SCANDANAVIANS AND LA COUNTRIES.
 SUGGESTION TO ADVANCE FUNDS IN 1975 FROM CASH
 RESERVE AND ASSES GOVERNMENTS IN 1976 CONSIDERED
 ANOTHER SCHEME TO DEFER SOLUTION TO DEFICIT
 PROBLEM. THIS ANALOGOUS TO INCREASE IN ASSESSMENT
 SCALE WHICH GOVERNMENTS WILL BALK AT PAYING.
 POSSIBLY, BLAM MIGHT BE PUT ON USG FOR DEFICIT
 BECAUSE OF USG REDUCTION IN CONTRIBUTION TO
 SECTION III WHICH RESULTED IN ICEM MAKING PERSONNEL
 TRANSFER TO ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET. THIS
 MIGHT SOUND FAR-FETCHED, BUT COULD HAPPEN.

2. INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH REFUGEE
 MOVEMENTS DRECRASED FROM 52,700 TO 41,400
 OVERALL REFUGEE PROGRAM STILL SHOWING DEFICITS
 AS FOLLOWS:

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	REVISED EST.	1975 RESOURCES
SECTION I	944,850	887,700 (57,150)
SECTION II	7,803,650	7,512,400 (291,250)
SECTION III	3,614,600	3,227,200 (387,400)

IN THESE SECTIONS IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT SUFFICIENT
 ADDITIONAL INCOME, I.E., INTEREST, TRANSPORTATION

COSTS PAID BY SPONSOR, ETC., WILL BE GENERATED TO
BALANCE THESE BUDGETS. ACTUAL FACT DURING
CONVERSATION AT ICEM THEY EXPECT SECTION III
TRANSPORTATION WILL BE FULLY PAID.

3. IN VIEW OF BUDGET PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERED
WEAK ARGUMENT OF NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS SUGGESTS
THAT US DELEGATION BE INSTRUCTED TO REJECT ICEM
RECOMMENDATIONS PARAS 5 AND 6 SCBF/159.

4. PRELIMINARY 1976 BUDGET RECEIVED
LATE TODAY AND SENT INTERNATIONAL AIR MAIL.
BUDGET IS VAGUE. PROJECTS ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET
FROM \$4.3 MILLION TO \$4.7 MILLION WITH US
CONTRIBUTION AS 1,533,180 INCREASE \$330,000
OVER CY 1975. DOCUMENT SHOWS TWO PROGRAM SECTIONS
WITH SECTIONS I AND III CONSOLIDATED INTO NEW
SECTION I WITH SECTION II REMAINING AS BEFORE.
ICEM HAS NOT INCLUDED PROJECTED BUDGETS FOR THESE
SECTIONS.

5. PLEASE ADVISE IF DETAILED INFORMATION ON
ANY SEGMENT OF BUDGET NEEDED PRIOR GEORGE
WARREN'S DEPARTURE FOR GENEVA. ABRAMS

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